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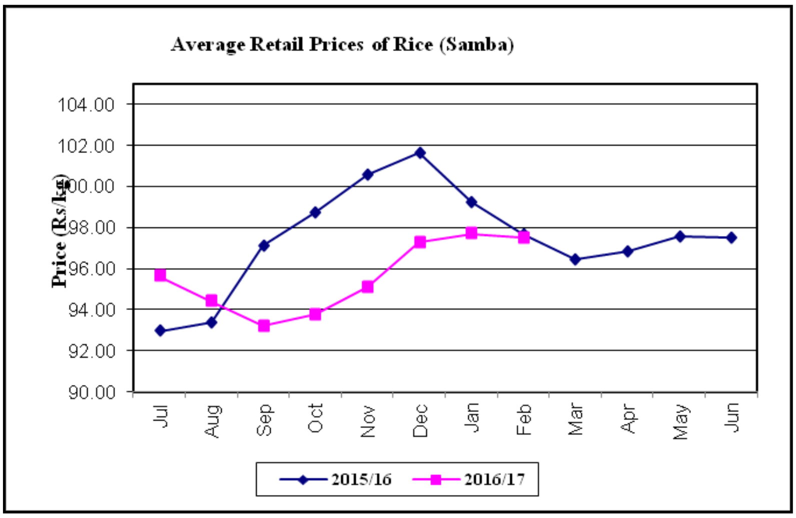
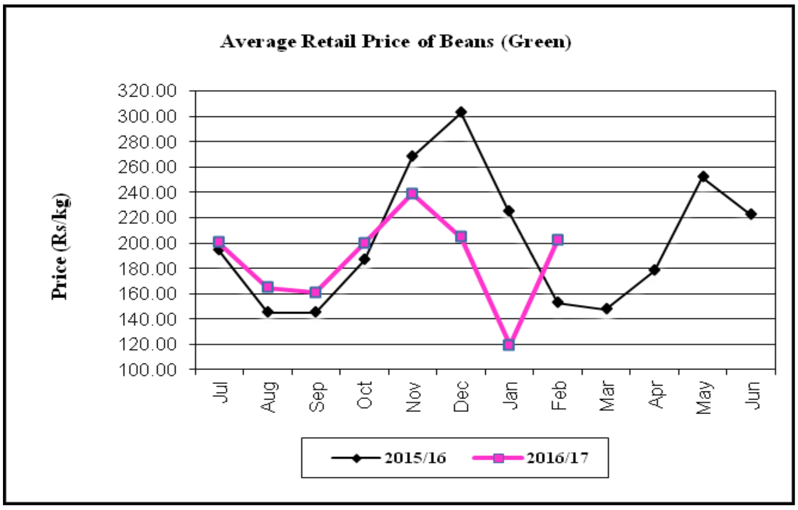
RICE:

Total imports of rice in the month of February have almost tripled compared to last month and prices of ponni samba, imported nadu and raw white have decreased by Rs.13.00/kg and Rs.10.00/kg respectively. Furthermore, as a result of imposition of controlled price by the government, price of local raw white has also decreased by Rs.2.00/kg.

VEGETABLES:

Supplies of both up and low country varieties of vegetables slightly dropped and thereby prices had increased in most of the types due to reaching of the latter phase of *Maha* peak harvesting period. Of the price increased varieties, reported average price increases were 54% and 45% respectively, for up and lowcountry varieties.





Marketing , Food Policy and Agribusiness Division
Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute
No 114, Wijerama Mawatha , Colombo 07.
Ministry of Agriculture
Phone: 011-2696981 Fax: 011-2682283 E-mail: mfpaharti@yahoo.com Web: www.harti.gov.lk

EXPLANTATORY NOTE

The Food Information Bulletin is a monthly publication containing information relating to producer, wholesale and retail prices of selected food commodities in selected markets in and around Colombo and main markets in the major producing areas. Data on extent, production and imports are also available in the bulletin.

The information is analyzed and presented as, prevailing prices, price ranges, averages and comparison of monthly prices. The changes in prices reported are always in relation to price, which prevailed during the previous month unless otherwise stated.

Co-ordinator / Head of the Division
Mr.W.H.Duminda Priyadarshana

Research Team

W.A.N.Wijesooriya	- Paddy
I. Virajith Kuruppu	- Rice, Wheat flour and Sugar
R.N.K. Rambukwella	- Onion
R.H.A.W. Ruvini	- Dried chilies and Pulses
Ruvini Vidanapathirana	- Potato
I.K. Edirisinghe	- Fruits
Darshika Amarakoon	- Dried fish, Meat, Fish and Eggs
P.A.J. Champika	-Vegetables

Compilation of Data and Information
P.G.A. Rathnasiri
W.G.N Malkanthi

Data Processing
K.A.R. Pathmasiri

Word Processing
I.A. Surangani

Editor
S. Perera

Data Collection Areas:

Colombo and suburb Markets

1. Pettah
2. Narahenpita
3. Dematagoda
4. Thotalanga
5. Peliyagoda
6. Kadawatha
7. Kiribathgoda
8. Wellawatta
9. Kirulapone
10. Nugegoda

Outstation Markets

1. Nuwara Eliya
2. Dambulla
3. Matara
4. Kurunegala
5. Embilipitiya
6. Kandy
7. Meegoda
8. Kalutara
9. Tissamaharama
10. Nikaweratiya
11. Polonnaruwa
12. Puttalama
13. Hambantota
14. Divulapitiya
15. Dehiattakandiya
16. Keppetipola
17. Thambutthegama
18. Anuradhapura
19. Badulla
20. Galle
21. Mannar
22. Trincomalee
23. Batticaloe
24. Jaffna
25. Mullaitivu
26. Kilinochchi
27. Vavuniya
28. Kegalle
29. Ampara
30. Monaragala
31. Ratnapura

1. Paddy

Crop Situation

Delay and insufficiency in the amount of monsoon rains during the season was severely affected the paddy cultivations in most of the major producing areas in the country. Therefore, the prospects of the paddy crop in 2016/17 *Maha* season were not satisfactory due to the prevailing drought situation and the low water capacities in major reservoirs. Satisfactory progress to a certain extent was recorded only in producing areas especially in the Eastern province followed by the Northern Province. Harvesting of paddy crop was recorded in the Eastern province, Hambantota and Embilipitiya major producing areas. According to the latest crop forecast report of the Department of Agriculture, due to the drought 146,794 ha of crop damage were recorded and it is 27% of the sown extent. The cultivation progress up to end December is 540,510 ha and it is 67% of the target and it is already 26% lower compared to the average of last three *Maha* seasons. Further, the report reveals that the production forecast for the *Maha* season is expected to vary from 1.41 to 1.52 million Mt, 47 percent lower compared to the average of last three *Maha* seasons.

Table 1.1 Progress of Paddy Cultivation: *Maha* 2016/17 End of February 2017

District/Area	Targeted Extent (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Achievement as a % of the Targeted Extent	Production forecast based on progress (mt)	Total effected extent due to drought (ha)	Expected total production loss due to drought (mt)	Reversed production forecast (mt)
Anuradhapura	95,748	29,429	31	103,886	6,148	28,354	75,532
Polonnaruwa	30,000	24,706	82	87,418	18	4,978	82,440
Ampara	75,168	74,836	100	285,994	18,267	75,290	210,704
Kurunegala	83,715	42,740	51	149,590	16,259	48,025	101,565
Hambantota	29,095	23,578	81	98,882	280	6,473	92,409
Colombo	3,608	2,432	67	7,172	45	456	6,716
Gampaha	11,500	8,045	70	23,250	1,505	3,146	20,104
Kalutara	13,500	8,701	64	25,686	291	1,622	24,064
Galle	15,382	8,357	54	22,563	-	1,442	21,122
Matara	16,414	13,096	80	35,154	93	2,452	32,702
Ratnapura	12,521	6,346	51	20,498	117	1,436	19,061
Kegalle	8,726	3,500	40	12,033	224	1,180	10,853
Puttalam	23,145	8,848	38	26,322	3,178	8,222	18,100
Kandy	13,728	9,722	71	28,685	71	1,931	26,754
Matale	20,710	12,368	60	48,274	27	2,709	45,565
N' Eliya	6,496	2,660	41	5,950	-	528	5,422
Badulla	23,246	8,409	36	31,162	-	1,833	29,329
Monaragala	33,606	19,567	58	67,115	3,252	13,239	53,876
Jaffna	11,550	10,419	90	20,433	10,340	16,182	4,251
Kilinochchi	23,532	23,438	100	82,605	8,470	23,352	59,253
Vavniya	19,810	13,143	66	43,403	2,254	7,586	35,817
Mullative	17,067	16,460	96	46,589	8,659	15,693	30,896
Mannar	21,000	14,220	68	66,936	5,735	23,511	43,425
Trincomalee	42,313	34,796	82	129,300	20,000	77,279	52,021
Batticaloa	63,526	64,416	101	165,444	41,446	82,123	83,321
Udawalawa	10,700	1,104	10	5,443	-	-	5,443
System H	22,300	4,754	21	22,059	-	1,379	20,680
System H1	9,350	3,481	37	16,152	-	1,009	15,142
System B	19,340	18,816	97	87,306	-	10,913	76,393
System C	23,306	22,418	96	104,020	116	13,159	90,861
System G	5,200	4,059	78	18,834	-	1,177	17,657
System D	500	40	8	186	-	12	174
Rambakanoya	1,350	344	25	1,596	-	100	1,496
System L	1,425	1,262	89	5,856	-	366	5,490
Sri Lanka	**808,579**	**540,510**	**67**	**1,895,794**	**146,794**	**477,156**	**1,418,638**

Source: Crop Forecast, maha 2016/17, Department of Agriculture

Producer Prices

From the beginning of the month paddy prices have shown a decreasing trend in almost all of the major producing areas and a significant decline was observed by the end of the month especially for long grain white varieties. The market arrivals have increased in Polonnaruwa, Ampara, and most of the other major producing areas as a result of the progress of the harvesting of paddy crop in 2016/17 *Maha* season in Akkraipattu, Potuvil, Sammanthurai, Nindavur in Ampara district. However, the arrival of high moisture newly harvested paddy to the markets also caused the price decline. Prices of short grain, long grain white and long grain red have decreased by 11-16%, 03-20% and 12-16% respectively. Prices of short grain and long grain white ranged between Rs.35.00-55.00/Kg and Rs.35.00-60.00/Kg in major producing areas and the lowest prices were recorded in Anuradhapura. The prices of long grain red paddy ranged between Rs 40.00-60.00/Kg in producing areas in the Southern province. Prices of *keeri* samba paddy ranged between Rs.55.00-60.00/kg in Polonnaruwa and Dehiattakandiya producing areas. According to the field information it is expected that a decreasing trend of paddy prices would continue in the next month due to the increased supply.

Compared to the same period of last year, a significant increase of prices was recorded for all the paddy varieties. The prices of long grain white paddy have increased by 37%-92% and prices of long grain red paddy have increased by 60%-77% in all major producing areas. The prices of short grain white paddy have increased by less than 6%-33% in most of the major producing areas.

Table1.2: Producer Prices of Paddy – February 2017

Commodity	Price Range		Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Short Grain									
Anuradhapura	35.00-54.00	46.00-54.00	43.87	49.12	35.80	*-5.25*	*-10.68*	*8.07*	*22.55*
Polonnaruwa	37.50-51.00	49.00-52.00	42.58	50.92	40.33	*-8.34*	*-16.37*	*2.25*	*5.59*
Kalawewa	37.00-54.00	51.00-58.00	45.21	53.25	36.94	*-8.04*	*-15.10*	*8.27*	*22.39*
Kurunegala	-	-	-	-	37.24	-	-	-	-
Dehiattakandiya	37.00-50.00	48.00-52.00	42.17	50.34	39.67	*-8.17*	*-16.24*	*2.50*	*6.29*
Nikaweratiya	40.00-55.00	54.00-55.00	46.09	54.40	34.67	*-8.31*	*-15.28*	*11.42*	*32.93*
Ampara	39.00-51.00	50.00-52.00	45.20	51.24	40.32	*-6.04*	*-11.79*	*4.88*	*12.10*
Long Grain White									
Anuradhapura	35.00-56.00	47.00-56.00	43.99	51.24	26.25	*-7.26*	*-14.16*	*17.74*	*67.56*
Polonnaruwa	36.50-50.00	49.00-51.00	41.22	50.35	29.99	*-9.14*	*-18.14*	*11.23*	*37.43*
Kalawewa	36.00-54.00	51.00-58.00	43.75	54.90	27.75	*-11.15*	*-20.31*	*16.00*	*57.67*
Kurunegala	-	-	-	-	27.76	-	-	-	-
Dehiattakandiya	37.00-50.00	46.00-52.50	41.17	49.91	26.31	*-8.74*	*-17.52*	*14.86*	*56.47*
Embilipitiya	52.00-53.00	50.00-60.00	52.60	54.16	32.96	*-1.56*	*-2.88*	*19.64*	*59.59*
Nikaweratiya	40.00-58.00	52.00-58.00	45.93	54.60	25.50	*-8.67*	*-15.87*	*20.43*	*80.13*
Matara	58.00-60.00	49.00-56.00	59.33	52.60	30.87	*6.73*	*12.80*	*28.46*	*92.20*
Hambantota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ampara	35.00-49.50	49.00-50.00	42.85	49.56	30.64	*-6.71*	*-13.54*	*12.21*	*39.85*
Long Grain Red									
Anuradhapura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Matara	45.00-60.00	47.00-56.00	52.50	50.93	29.60	*1.57*	*3.09*	*22.90*	*77.37*
Hambantota	40.00-54.00	49.00-61.00	44.88	53.50	-	*-8.62*	*-16.11*	-	-
Embilipitiya	42.00-55.00	48.00-60.00	46.45	52.52	29.12	*-6.07*	*-11.56*	*17.33*	*59.51*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Rice Demand and Supply Situation

Wholesale Prices

Although, the wholesale prices of both local and imported rice varieties have increased in the beginning of this month, due to the imposition of controlled price by the government and also through significant increment in rice imports into the country resulted in price decrement in the latter part of February. Furthermore, increased market arrivals of local rice stocks in the third week of this month also favoured the price reduction. Total imports of rice in the month have almost tripled when compared to the previous month and the import quantity was 92644mt (worth of Rs.5445mn). Accordingly, prices of imported samba, imported nadu and imported raw white have decreased by 12%,11% and 10% respectively and prices ranged between Rs.65.00-86.00/kg. At the same time, prices of local raw white and nadu grade II have decreased by 2% and 1% respectively. However, the prices of local samba grade II and raw red have increased by 1% compared to last month.

Out of total rice imports for the month of February, majority (72%) that is 66543mt. was imported from India. The rest, 15%, 12% and 1% was imported from Pakistan, Myanmar and Thailand respectively. In addition, few quantities were also imported from Vietnam. The CIF price ranged between Rs.50.50-62.76/kg and the average CIF price was recorded as Rs.58.78/kg. The highest CIF price was reported for the Thailand rice stocks while, the lowest recorded for the Myanmar stocks. The CIF price of Rs.60.09/kg was applied for the highest imported stocks from India.

Compared to the same period of last year, except imported samba, wholesale prices of all other rice varieties have increased in the range of 2%-60%.

Retail Prices

Prices of all imported rice varieties have decreased significantly, aligning with the wholesale prices. The highest price decline of Rs.13.00/kg was observed for imported *ponni* samba. Accordingly, Rs.11.00/kg and Rs.10.00/kg price decrement was reported for imported nadu and imported raw white. Prices of all imported rice varieties ranged between Rs.70.00-100.00/kg. Meanwhile, the price of local nadu grade II has decreased by Rs.2.00/kg and the price ranged between Rs.80.00-98.00/kg. However, price of local raw red and nadu grade I has increased by Rs.2.00/kg and Rs.1.00/kg respectively. Even though the prices of local samba varieties have increased slightly, it was not a significant change.

Referring to retail prices of outstation markets except Colombo, the highest samba prices ranged between Rs.105.00-110.00/kg and it was reported from Embilipitiya market, while the lowest price ranged between Rs.88.00-90.00/kg from Mannar market. The highest nadu price range of Rs.90.00-95.00/kg was reported from Thambuttegama market while the lowest price range of Rs.80.00-85.00/kg was reported from Puttalam and Kilinochchi markets. Likewise, the highest price of Rs.100.00/kg for raw red was noted from Kalutara and Ratnapura markets and the lowest price of Rs.75.00/kg from Hambantota and Thissamaharama markets. Meanwhile, for raw white the highest price of Rs.76.00/kg was reported from Hanguranketa market and the lowest price of Rs.70.00/kg from Thissamaharama market.

Compared to the same period of last year, the retail prices of all local rice varieties except samba grade I, have increased in the range of 1%-36%. With the market flourish of rice and also at the same time due to controlled prices it is expected that prices of all the rice varieties will stabilize in the coming month.

Table 1.3: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Rice – February 2017

Item	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Samba 1	88.00-100.00	94.70	95.01	92.62	*-0.31*	*-0.32*	*2.08*	*2.24*
Samba 2	84.00-95.00	90.38	88.93	84.01	*1.46*	*1.64*	*6.37*	*7.59*
Samba 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	-	-	94.06	69.30	-	-	-	-
Nadu 2	77.00-97.00	88.99	90.01	62.74	*-1.02*	*-1.13*	*26.25*	*41.84*
Raw red	70.00-98.00	86.86	86.13	54.36	*0.73*	*0.85*	*32.50*	*59.78*
Raw white	74.00-95.00	88.27	90.08	55.33	*-1.81*	*-2.01*	*32.94*	*59.53*
Imported Samba	72.00-78.00	74.72	85.21	102.17	*-10.48*	*-12.30*	*-27.45*	*-26.87*
Imported Raw White	65.00-80.00	71.00	78.90	-	*-7.90*	*-10.01*	-	-
Imported Nadu	75.00-86.00	70.95	79.92	-	*-8.97*	*-11.22*	-	-
Retail Prices								
Samba 1	95.00-110.00	101.11	100.87	101.83	*0.24*	*0.24*	*-0.72*	*-0.71*
Samba 2	88.00-98.00	94.74	94.54	93.55	*0.20*	*0.21*	*1.19*	*1.27*
Samba 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nadu 1	90.00-110.00	99.95	98.73	79.87	*1.22*	*1.24*	*20.08*	*25.14*
Nadu 2	80.00-98.00	91.64	93.45	73.46	*-1.81*	*-1.94*	*18.18*	*24.75*
Raw red	76.00-110.00	94.37	92.41	69.32	*1.96*	*2.12*	*25.05*	*36.14*
Raw white	78.00-110.00	95.56	95.27	70.19	*0.29*	*0.30*	*25.37*	*36.14*
Imported *Ponni* Samba	75.00-100.00	83.83	97.17	117.78	*-13.34*	*-13.73*	*-33.95*	*-28.82*
Imported Raw White	70.00-92.00	79.72	89.63	-	*-9.91*	*-11.06*	-	-
Imported Nadu	85.00-90.00	78.00	88.75	-	*-10.75*	*-12.11*	-	-

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2. Other Field Crops

2.1 Chillies

Crop Situation

Total cultivated extent of chillie by the end of February was 8,439 ha out of 11,253 ha of total targeted land area for the 2016/17 *Maha* Season. Consequently, the revised expected yield was 32,455 mt and it was 66% achievement compared to the same period of last year. Major districts that contributed to the expected production are Anurdhapura (19%), Puttalum (15%), Monaragala (11%) and Badulla (5%). Compared to the same season last year, contribution of Anurdhapura to the expected production showed a 13% reduction.

Table 2.1.1: Cultivation Progress of Green Chillies for *Maha* 2016/17

Area	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress at the end of January 2017		Expected Production (Mt)
		Extent (ha)	% of the Targeted Extent	
Anuradhapura	3,246	2,101	65	6,295
Moneragala	828	593	72	3,891
Puttalam	880	707	80	4,949
Jaffna	725	369	51	1,416
Ampara	575	297	52	763
Other areas	4,999	4,372	87	15,141
Total	**11,253**	**8,439**	75	**32,455**

Source: Crop Forecasting Unit, Department of Agriculture

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Comparatively low producer price of chillie was maintained throughout the month in Puttalam district. By the end of February, producer price was reported as Rs.115.00/kg in Puttalam and it was 48% lower than the producer price in Anuradhapura. However, average farm gate prices of Dambulla, Hambantota, Embilipitiya, Puttalam and Anuradhapura ranged between Rs.149.00-185.00/kg.

In line with that, wholesale price and retail price of chillie was reported as Rs.173.00/kg and Rs.342.00/kg respectively. It was recorded as 11% rise in price of wholesale market compared to last month and no significant change was observed compared to same period of last year. In accordance with that, retail price had increased by 12% compared to last month and by 3% compared to last year. According to field information, harvesting has started in major cultivation districts and higher production is expected in coming months.

A quantity of 3,921 mt of dried chillie has been imported from India during February, 2017. CIF of dried chillie was Rs.31.00 lower compared to last month, and hence, both wholesale and retail prices had decreased by 10% and 9%. Average wholesale and retail prices of dried chillie in February, was recorded as Rs.197.00/kg and Rs.284.00/kg respectively. Compared to February, last year wholesale and retail prices decreased by 35% and 21% respectively. According to market information, prices of dried chillie declined due to drastic fall in price level in Indian market with the arrival of new varieties in large quantities to major markets. For the last six months, price of dried chillie has decreased by around 39%.

Table 2.1.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Chillies and Green Chillies February 2017

Items	Price Range	Average Price			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price								
Green Chillies	130.00-210.00	172.50	156.00	173.19	*16.50*	*10.58*	*-0.69*	*-0.40*
Dried Chillies	190.00-200.00	196.56	218.82	301.40	*-22.26*	*-10.17*	*-104.84*	*-34.78*
Retail Price								
Green Chillies	180.00-400.00	342.89	306.26	333.27	*36.63*	*11.96*	*9.62*	*2.89*
Dried Chillies	240.00-320.00	283.58	311.44	*360.56*	*-27.86*	*-8.95*	*-76.98*	*-21.35*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.3: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Dried Chillies September 2016 to February 2017

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn.)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
February	3,921	637.03	162.48	283.58	121.10
January	4,817	934.31	193.95	311.44	117.49
December	3,928	800.10	203.68	327.65	123.97
November	4,364	1,038.75	238.03	351.86	113.83
October	4,250	1,112.64	261.80	362.69	100.89
September	4,545	1,205.05	265.15	365.44	100.29

Source: Department of Customs, Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.1.4: Producer Prices of Green Chillies (Rs/kg) – February 2017

Location	1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week	5th week
Dambulla	146.00	158.00	151.00	180.00	
Hambantota	170.00	170.00	190.00	190.00	
Embilipitiya	197.00	211.00	155.00	177.00	
Puttalam	171.00	174.00	138.00	115.00	
A'Pura	183.33	140.00	176.67	223.33	

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.2 Big Onion and Red Onion

Crop situation

Around 428 ha of big onion was targeted in Sri Lanka for this *maha* season and the highest targeted extent was reported from Hambantota (67 ha) followed by Mannar (62 ha). However, the highest cultivated extent (36 ha) was reported from Mannar at the end of February 2017. At the end of this month, only 102 ha of big onion were cultivated in Sri Lanka representing 24% of the targeted extent and available production considering crop damages was 1,244 mt during this *maha* season.

Table 2.2.1: Cultivation Progress of Red Onion for *Maha* 2016/17

Area	Targeted Extent (ha)	Cultivation Progress at the end of February 2017		Drought affected area (ha)	Available production considering crop damages (Mt)
		Cultivated Extent (ha)	% of the Target		
Jaffna	2,100	738	35	9	8,019
Puttalam	1,006	677	67	0	8,124
Trincomalee	718	234	33	0	2,491
Other areas	1,090	390	36	27	3,430
Total	**4,914**	**2,039**	**41**	**36**	**22,064**

Source: Crop Forecast No.4 Maha 2016/17, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA MFPAD/HARTI

The cultivated extent of red onion for *maha* 2016/17 season as at the end of February 2017 was 2,039 ha in the country and it represents 41% of the target. In Jaffna district about 738 ha have been cultivated at the end of February 2017, which represents only 35% of the targeted extent. Compared to the last *maha* season, the cultivated extent of red onion in Jaffna district has dropped by 690 ha (48%) due to unfavorable weather condition. In Puttalam district about 677 ha have been cultivated at the end of February 2017 which represents 67% of the targeted extent. Compared to last *maha* season, the targeted extent and the cultivated extent of red onion in Puttalam district has increased during this *maha* season. The production forecast of red onion for this season is 22,064 mt and out of that 84% of the production will arrive to the market from Jaffna (36%), Puttalam (37%) and Trincomalee (11%) districts.

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 20,018 mt of big onion was imported from India during this month. It was a decrease of 250 mt compared to the previous month. Average CIF price was Rs.28.27/kg and it has decreased by Rs.2.14/kg compared to that of the previous month. Wholesale price of imported big onion has not changed significantly, while the retail price has decreased by about Rs.3.00/kg, due to availability of sufficient stocks at the market. Average wholesale and retail prices of imported big onion were Rs.70.88/kg and Rs.96.57/kg respectively and both prices have increased by about 62% and 41% respectively when compared to the same period of previous year.

Limited stocks of local red onion arrived to the market from Puttalam and Jaffna districts. Both wholesale and retail prices of vedalan have increased by about Rs.4.00/kg and Rs.41.00/kg respectively due to limited stocks position. Stocks of sinnan were not available at the market.

About 1,819 mt of red onion was imported from India during this month and compared to the previous month it has decreased by about 822 mt. Average CIF price was Rs.72.56/kg for imported red onion and it has increased by Rs.12.00/kg compared to the previous month. Both wholesale and retail prices of imported red onion have increased by about Rs.17.00/kg and Rs.11.00/kg respectively due to limited imports from India.

Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of vedalan and imported red onion have increased by about 35% and 20% respectively.

Table 2.2.2: Wholesale Prices and Retail Prices of Red Onion and Big Onion February 2017

Crop	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	-	-	52.50	46.67	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Vedalan)	90.00-140.00	106.97	103.06	71.11	*3.91*	*3.80*	*35.86*	*50.43*
Red Onion (Imported)	80.00-125.00	106.50	89.69	65.56	*16.81*	*18.74*	*40.94*	*62.44*
Big Onion (imported)	65.00-95.00	70.88	70.70	43.70	*0.18*	*0.25*	*27.18*	*62.20*
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail Prices								
Red Onion (Sinnan)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Onion (Vedalan)	160.00-220.00	197.00	156.25	145.71	*40.75*	*26.08*	*51.29*	*35.20*
Red Onion (Imported)	120.00-180.00	146.33	135.29	121.89	*11.04*	*8.16*	*24.44*	*20.05*
Big Onion (imported)	80.00-120.00	96.57	100.02	68.73	*-3.45*	*-3.45*	*27.84*	*40.51*
Big Onion (Local)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.3: Monthly Average CIF, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Imported Onion

Crop	Month	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Margin (Rs/kg)	
					WP-CIF	RP-WP
Big onion	Feb 2017	28.27	70.88	96.57	*42.61*	*25.69*
	Jan 2017	30.41	70.70	100.02	*40.29*	*29.32*
	Feb 2016	30.43	43.70	68.73	*13.27*	*25.03*
Red onion	Feb 2017	72.56	106.50	146.33	*33.94*	*39.83*
	Jan 2017	60.12	89.69	135.29	*29.57*	*34.98*
	Feb 2016	55.72	65.56	121.89	*9.84*	*56.33*

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.2.4: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Big Onion and Red Onion

Crop	Quantity (mt.)		Value (Rs. mn)		CIF Price (Rs/kg)	
	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017
Red Onion	1819	2701	131.99	162.38	72.56	60.12
Big Onion	20018	20268	565.98	616.39	28.27	30.41

Source: Department of Custom

Table 2.2.5: Quantity Imported, CIF Price, Wholesale and Retail Price of Big Onion September 2016 to February 2017

Month	Quantity Imported (mt)	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale Price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (RP-CIF) (Rs/kg)
February	20018	28.27	70.88	96.57	68.30
January	20268	30.41	70.70	100.02	69.61
December	20737	33.03	81.82	106.54	73.51
November	7742	38.35	73.18	91.96	53.60
October	4193	35.88	67.89	84.79	48.91
September	8889	28.69	64.14	92.01	63.32

Source: Department of Customs

2.3 Potato

Crop Situation and Progress

The targeted extent of potato for *maha* 2016/17 is 3,174 ha and about 2,737 ha had been cultivated by the end of this month achieving 86% of the target. Compared to the same period of last *maha* season, the cultivated extent during this *maha* season is similar. During this month about 521 ha of potato was cultivated in the country and it was lower than the extent cultivated in the previous months of this *maha* season. According to the Department of Agriculture, compared to other OFCs, crop damages were not reported for potato due to drought. According to the cultivated extent up to end of this month, the expected production of potato is 45,932 mt for this *maha* season.

In the Nuwara Eliya district, the targeted extent is 1,248 ha and about 1,009 ha of potato have been cultivated by the end of this month (81% progress). Compared to the same period of last *maha* season, the cultivated extent is at high level during this *maha* season in the district. The targeted extent for this *maha* season is 1,712 ha in the Badulla district and about 1,586 ha have been cultivated by the end of February achieving 93% of the targeted extent. The cultivated extent during this season is at low level compared to the same period of last *maha* season due to dry weather condition prevailed specially in the Badulla district at the beginning of this *maha* season.

Table 2.3.1: Cultivation Progress and Expected Production of Potato (*Maha* 2016/17)

District	Targeted Extent (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)	Expected Production (mt)
	Maha 2015/16	*Maha* 2016/17	*Maha* 2015/16	*Maha* 2016/17	*Maha* 2016/17	
N'Eliya	1,200	1,248	695	1,009	81	20,174
Badulla	1,637	1,712	1,867	1,586	93	23,792
Sri Lanka	**2,993**	**3,174**	**2,737**	**2,737**	**86**	**45,932**

Source: MFPAD/HARTI
Crop Forecast, Maha 2016/17, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA
****Crop Forecast, Maha 2015/16, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA***

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

A quantity of 11,700 mt of potato had been imported in February, which was 21,463 mt lower than that was imported during the previous month. About 49% and 43% of the imported stocks were received from India and Pakistan during this month. Compared to February, 2016 (17,228 mt), the imports were low during this month. Average CIF price was Rs.23.00/kg in February which has decreased by Rs.7.00/kg compared to last month due to decrease of potato prices in the world market.

With regard to local potato, only stocks of Nuwara Eliya potato were available in the Colombo Wholesale market. The stocks of Welimada potato were not available in the market due to end of the harvesting period. Due to availability of ample stocks of imported potatoes, the demand for Nuwara Eliya potato was low. Hence, the wholesale and retail prices of Nuwara Eliya potato has decreased by 14% and 10% respectively. On average, the producer price of Nuwara Eliya potato was Rs.101.00/kg in February. The wholesale and retail prices of imported potato have decreased by 4% and 12% due to availability of ample stocks in the market. During the month of February, the wholesale prices of Nuwara Eliya and imported potatoes ranged between Rs.110.00-140.00/kg and Rs.60.00-95.00/kg respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, the current retail prices of Nuwara Eliya (17%) and imported potato (42%) has increased.

Table 2.3.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Potatoes September 2016 to February 2017

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
February	11700	321.71	23.13	105.61	*82.48*
January	33163	1002.50	30.23	119.66	*89.43*
December	16080	725.50	45.12	122.79	*77.67*
November	8423	406.77	48.29	120.83	*72.54*
October	7631	253.58	33.23	113.77	*80.54*
September	4408	148.12	33.61	113.98	*80.37*

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table: 2.3.3: Producer, Wholesale and Retail prices of Potato – February 2017

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Producer Prices (PP)								
Welimada	77.00-105.00	92.95	114.60	73.76	*91.20*	*79.58*	*19.19*	*26.02*
Nuwara Eliya	95.00-110.00	101.05	122.68	83.08	*92.20*	*75.15*	*17.97*	*21.63*
Imported – CIF	23.13-31.49	23.13	30.23	24.50	*-7.10*	*-23.49*	*-1.37*	*-5.60*
Wholesale Prices (WP)								
Welimada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	110.00-140.00	123.76	143.75	96.81	*-19.99*	*-13.90*	*26.96*	*27.85*
Imported	60.00-95.00	76.16	79.16	46.47	*-3.00*	*-3.79*	*29.68*	*63.87*
Retail Prices (RP)								
Welimada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya	150.00-200.00	174.64	194.94	148.75	*-20.30*	*-10.41*	*25.89*	*17.41*
Imported	80.00-140.00	105.61	119.66	74.14	*-14.05*	*-11.74*	*31.47*	*42.45*
Gross Margin (RP-PP)								
Welimada		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		73.59	72.26	65.67	*1.33*	*1.84*	*7.92*	*12.06*
Imported (CIF-RP)		82.48	89.43	49.64	*-6.95*	*-7.77*	*32.84*	*66.16*
Gross Margin (RP -WP)								
Welimada		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nuwara Eliya		50.88	51.19	51.94	*-0.31*	*-0.61*	*-1.07*	*-2.05*
Imported		29.45	40.50	27.67	*-11.05*	*-27.28*	*1.79*	*6.46*

Source: Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.4 Green gram and Cowpea
Crop Situation and Progress

By the end of February, 60% of the targeted extent of green gram for *maha* 2016/17 has been achieved and it was 5,405 ha. An extent of 277 ha had been affected with drought condition and accordingly revised expected production is 3,688 mt. Up to now, the highest green gram cultivated land area was reported in Hambanthota which represent 34% from the total cultivated extent. However, Kurunagala, Monaragala, Anuradhapura and Ratnapura accounted for another 27% from the total cultivated extent. Compared to the previous year, only 50% production has been estimated to be achieved in *Maha* season.

According to the crop forecast by the Department of Agriculture, a quantity of 10,549 ha of cowpea was targeted to be cultivated in *maha* 2016/17 and by the end of February 55% of the targeted extent was achieved (approximately 5,799 ha). Thus, 6,264 mt production is expected which accounts for 75% progress compared to same period in 2015/16 *maha* season. Approximately 39% of the cultivated extent out of the total cultivated land area was reported from Ampara (2,262 ha) and the rest of the major cultivated districts were Monaragala (581 ha), Anurdhapura (564 ha) and Kurunagala (323 ha). Drought has severely affected cowpea cultivation in Mullaitivu and Batticaloa and total drought affected area was 350ha.

Table 2.4.1: Cultivation Progress and Expected Production of Green gram and Cowpea (*Maha* 2016/17)

Crop	District	Targeted Ext. (ha)		Achievement (ha)		Progress (%)
		***Maha* 2015/16**	***Maha* 2016/17**	***Maha* 2015/16**	***Maha* 2016/17**	***Maha* 2016/17**
Green gram	Hambantota	860	2,016	2,506	1,890	94
	Kurunegala	862	605	739	481	80
	Moneragala	1,455	1,440	1,021	463	32
	Sri Lanka	**7,798**	**9,006**	**7,372**	**5,405**	**60**
Cowpea	Ampara	3,440	4,721	3,308	2,262	48
	Moneragala	1,650	1,356	1,318	581	43
	Anuradhapura	525	659	379	564	86
	Sri Lanka	**10,655**	**10,549**	**6,245**	**5,799**	**55**

Source:* *MFPAD/HARTI
Crop Forecast, Maha 2016/17, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA
****Crop Forecast, Maha 2015/16, Socio-economic & Planning Centre/DOA***

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

According to the Department of Customs, 1,509 mt of green gram has been imported in the month of February from Thailand (42%), Australia (21%), Myanmar (19%), United Arab Emirates (7%), India (7%) and Argentina (5%). Imported quantity has been increased by significant amount (1,098 mt) compared to the previous month and a quantity of 72 mt was received from a new importer from Argentina. The average CIF price was Rs.144.00/kg and it decreased by Rs. 31.00/kg compared to the same period last year. Furthermore, the highest CIF price could be observed in Australia (Rs.156.00/kg) while the lowest was reported in Argentina (Rs.136.00/kg).

Average wholesale price of green gram was Rs.211.00/kg and it was 7% higher when compared to the previous month and 5% higher compared to the same period last year. According to market information, market prices have increased due to high quality stocks received from Australia which has higher CIF price. In line with the price behaviour of the wholesale market, retail price of green gram increased by 9% than the previous month. However, the current retail price decreased by 2% compared to February, 2016.

A quantity of 328 mt of Cowpea has been imported from Myanmar this month which contributed 93% from total imports of 352mt. The rest 7% had been received from Singapore. Total imported quantity increased by 70 mt while the imported quantity from Myanmar had increased by 306mt compared to last month. However, CIF price of white cowpea was Rs.124.00/kg and it indicated an increasing trend during the past six months. Average CIF price was Rs.28.00/kg higher than February, 2016.

Accordingly, both wholesale and retail prices of white cowpea have increased by 17% and 11% respectively. Average wholesale price of white cowpea was Rs.254.00/kg and average retail price was Rs.275.00/kg. When compared to the same period last year, it was 32% and 9% rise in price for the wholesale and retail markets respectively.

Considering red cowpea, average wholesale price was Rs.255.00/kg and it was 15% higher than previous month due to low stock availability in the market. Consequently, average retail price has increased by 11% and it was noted as Rs.280.00/kg. Compared to February, 2016, both average wholesale and retail prices have increased by 25% and 13% respectively.

According to field data, more stock of cowpea is expected to reach the market during upcoming months since harvesting has started in major growing areas.

Table 2.4.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Green gram September 2016 to February 2017

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
February	1,509	216.58	143.53	237.78	94.25
January	411	59.10	143.93	228.54	84.61
December	366	56.91	155.37	216.33	60.96
November	699	101.91	145.88	221.28	75.40
October	745	106.96	143.67	220.61	76.94
September	1,556	240.64	154.69	219.40	64.71

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.4.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Cowpea September 2016 to February 2017

Month	Quantity (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
February	352	43.58	123.74	275.03	151.29
January	282	33.13	117.53	247.88	130.35
December	332	39.03	117.74	246.82	129.08
November	529	62.11	117.42	254.48	137.06
October	491	55.48	112.91	249.59	136.68
September	982	105.56	107.47	249.48	142.01

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.4.4: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Green gram and Cowpea – February 2017

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Green gram	200.00-215.00	210.66	203.48	199.79	7.18	3.53	10.87	5.44
Cowpea (White)	245.00-280.00	253.81	216.00	192.16	37.81	17.50	61.64	32.08
Cowpea (Red)	245.00-280.00	254.96	222.38	203.25	32.58	14.65	51.71	25.44
Retail Prices								
Green gram	210.00-260.00	237.78	228.54	243.85	9.24	4.04	-6.07	-2.49
Cowpea (White)	240.00-320.00	275.03	247.88	251.48	27.15	10.95	23.55	9.36
Cowpea (Red)	260.00-320.00	279.67	251.51	248.04	28.16	11.20	31.63	12.75

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 2.4.5: Monthly Average CIF, Wholesale and Retail Prices of Green gram And Cowpea

Crop	Month	CIF Price (Rs/kg)	Wholesale price (Rs/kg)	Retail price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/Kg)	
					WP-CIF	RP-WP
Green gram	Feb 2017	143.53	210.66	237.78	67.13	27.12
	Jan 2017	143.93	203.48	228.54	59.55	25.06
	Feb 2016	175.17	199.79	243.85	24.62	44.06
Cowpea (White)	Feb 2017	123.74	253.81	275.03	130.07	21.22
	Jan 2017	117.53	216.00	247.88	98.47	31.88
	Feb 2016	96.14	192.16	251.48	96.02	59.32
Cowpea (Red)	Feb 2017	-	254.96	279.67	-	24.71
	Jan 2017	-	222.38	251.51	-	29.14
	Feb 2016	-	203.25	248.04	-	44.79

Source: Department of Customs, Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

2.5 Red dhal

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Major imported countries of split type red dhal in February were Canada (72%), Australia (18%) and India (10%) while the countries which imported whole type red dhal were Australia (72%) and Canada (27%). The average CIF price of split type red dhal was Rs.139.00/kg and the total imported quantity was 3,534 mt. It has been reported that whole type red dhal is more popular in Sri Lanka which has a comparatively lower price (CIF price was Rs.104.00/kg) and a quantity of 11,027 mt had been imported during this month. Compared to last month, the imported quantity of red dhal has been reduced by 10, 020 mt. Average CIF price of red dhal indicated a decreasing trend during the past six months.

In line with that both wholesale and retail price have decreased by 5% each, than last month and by 19% and 10% respectively compared to the same period last year. According to market information, the average wholesale price was Rs.143.00/kg and the average retail price was Rs.165.00/kg.

Table 2.5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Red dhal – February 2017

Red Dhal	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Price	137.00-155.00	142.65	150.69	176.08	-8.05	-5.34	-33.43	-18.99
Retail Price	150.00-190.00	165.23	174.47	182.75	-9.24	-5.30	-17.52	-9.59

Source: Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division

Table 2.5.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Imported Red dhal September 2016 to February 2017

Month	Quantity (mt)	CIF Price Rs/kg	Wholesale price Rs/kg	Retail price Rs/kg	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)	
					CIF-WP	WP-RP
February	14562	112.61	142.65	165.23	30.04	22.58
January	24582	114.53	150.69	174.47	36.16	23.78
December	22873	120.28	156.46	176.77	36.18	20.30
November	17597	118.91	160.71	173.53	41.80	12.82
October	9475	127.21	162.59	173.66	35.38	11.07
September	9862	142.26	163.06	174.72	20.80	11.66

Source: Department of Customs, Marketing Food Policy & Agribusiness Division/HARTI

3. Vegetables

Crop Situation

Even though commencement of the *Maha* season, particularly in the upcountry areas had been delayed due to delay in onset of the north eastern monsoons, crop establishment was accelerated with the rains received during the mid-January hence, cultivation practices were more or less completed for the season with a high cultivation progress by the end of February.

Regarding the cultivation progress of the present *Maha* season, Nuwara Eliya and Badulla districts had reported about 99% and 115% cultivation progress respectively for the upcountry varieties at the end of February. Even though *Maha* cultivation started slowly in Kandy and Matale districts, both districts had reported more than 100% progress (102% for each district) for upcountry varieties at the end of February. Further, 94%, 86% and 104% cultivation progress was noted for upcountry varieties in Jaffna, Kurunegala and Puttalam districts, respectively.

Except for Monaragala, Anuradhapura and Jaffna districts, all the other lowcountry areas reported a fairly high cultivation progress by the end of February. Anuradhapura, the most significant district for low country varieties, recorded only 69% cultivation progress at the end of February, mainly due to negative impact of the drought. Meantime, Monaragala, Jaffna and Kurunegala districts had recorded a 42%, 65% and 88% cultivation progress respectively, for low country varieties. However, cultivation progress for Hambantota and Puttalam districts noted as high as 134% and 125% respectively, due to high water availability at the onset of the season as a result of continuous convective precipitation.

Prices and supply/Demand situation

The total vegetable production of Matale district in the month of February recorded a 64% increase compared to last month, with the value of 8,956mt. Furthermore, daily supply of vegetables to the Dambulla Dedicated Economic Centre (DEC) had increased by 33% compared to previous month, with the value of 1,900 mt, due to high supply from Jaffna.

As the early stage of the *Maha* peak harvesting season is phased out, supplies from up country areas slightly reduced hence prices of most of the up country vegetables had increased with the highest value recorded for beans as 138% followed by radish as 67% and cabbage as 15%. Bean prices had highly decreased last month up to Rs.57.00/kg, coinciding the harvesting periods of both Balangoda and Badulla in January. With the ending of the supplies from both areas, prices began to soar in February. Furthermore, prices of radish as well as cabbage had increased by a significant margin due to ending of the peak harvesting season for those vegetables. However, price decreases were reported for leeks, carrot and knolkhol with the highest margin recorded for leeks as 44% followed by carrot as 29% and knolkhol as 13%, due to high supplies that reached the market from up country areas during the latter part of the peak harvesting season. Moreover, as supplies continued to reach the market from Jaffna prices of carrot had further dropped by 29% in February.

Yet, due to gradual increase in supply of lowcountry variety, prices of tomato had started to decrease by high margin, about 56% in February.

Meantime, prices of most of the lowcountry vegetables also increased but in a low margin compared to that of upcountry varieties during the month of February. The highest price increase was reported for long beans as 107%, followed by snakegourd as 63%, ladies fingers as 62%, and luffa as 59%, due to low supplies during the latter phase of *Maha* harvesting season. However, prices of bittergourd and cucumber had decreased by 58% and 1% respectively, due to high supply from Anuradhapura district. In addition, prices of other lowcountry varieties had increased in the range of 1%-20%. Further, harvesting season for drumsticks ended in December so that hardly any stocks were available at the market during February.

Meantime, price of green chilies had further increased by 11% due to low supply from Anuradhapura and Jaffna. However, price of lime further dropped by 61% in February with the increased supply from Ampara and Monaragala.

Retail prices of most of the vegetables also increased during February with the highest price increase reported for beans as 70%.

Table 3.1: Wholesale Prices of Vegetables – February 2017

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	60.00-200.00	136.25	57.19	95.80	*79.06*	*138.24*	*40.45*	*42.22*
Carrot	30.00-50.00	41.67	58.92	157.97	*-17.25*	*-29.28*	*-116.30*	*-73.62*
Leeks	15.00-35.00	23.75	42.50	74.03	*-18.75*	*-44.12*	*-50.28*	*-67.92*
Beetroot	30.00-60.00	47.53	44.43	77.37	*3.10*	*6.98*	*-29.84*	*-38.57*
Knolkhol	30.00-60.00	52.71	60.25	75.99	*-7.54*	*-12.51*	*-23.28*	*-30.64*
Radish	10.00-30.00	24.24	15.41	20.80	*8.83*	*57.30*	*3.44*	*16.54*
Cabbage	5.00-20.00	14.76	12.86	69.44	*1.90*	*14.77*	*-54.68*	*-78.74*
Tomato	20.00-50.00	38.96	88.50	31.80	*-49.54*	*-55.98*	*7.16*	*22.52*
Ladies Fingers	70.00-110.00	93.13	57.44	70.71	*35.69*	*62.13*	*22.42*	*31.71*
Brinjal	30.00-75.00	47.38	39.36	52.11	*8.02*	*20.38*	*-4.73*	*-9.08*
Capsicum	120.00-180.00	155.00	160.17	207.78	*-5.17*	*-3.23*	*-52.78*	*-25.40*
Pumpkin	35.00-60.00	47.94	45.93	78.78	*2.01*	*4.38*	*-30.84*	*-39.15*
Cucumber	60.00-110.00	89.37	90.33	28.57	*-0.96*	*-1.06*	*60.80*	*212.81*
Bittergourd	80.00-150.00	110.74	164.41	86.75	*-53.67*	*-32.64*	*23.99*	*27.65*
Snakegourd	40.00-110.00	70.83	43.42	57.41	*27.41*	*63.13*	*13.42*	*23.38*
Drumstick	-	-	-	251.90	-	-	-	-
Luffa	90.00-180.00	155.00	97.29	67.30	*57.71*	*59.32*	*87.70*	*130.31*
Long Beans	30.00-100.00	73.54	35.50	50.84	*38.04*	*107.15*	*22.70*	*44.65*
Ash Plantain	40.00-65.00	57.56	56.97	52.82	*0.59*	*1.04*	*4.74*	*8.97*
Green Chillies	130.00-210.00	172.50	156.00	173.19	*16.50*	*10.58*	*-0.69*	*-0.40*
Lime	50.00-120.00	80.42	204.40	45.65	*-123.98*	*-60.66*	*34.77*	*76.17*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 3.2: Retail Prices of Vegetables – February 2017

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Beans (green)	100.00-320.00	202.28	119.15	153.14	*83.13*	*69.77*	*49.14*	*32.09*
Carrot	60.00-180.00	107.24	122.51	231.66	*-15.27*	*-12.46*	*-124.42*	*-53.71*
Leeks	50.00-140.00	90.40	107.65	145.35	*-17.25*	*-16.02*	*-54.95*	*-37.81*
Beetroot	70.00-180.00	110.03	114.97	156.70	*-4.94*	*-4.30*	*-46.67*	*-29.78*
Knolkhol	80.00-200.00	148.98	141.02	170.82	*7.96*	*5.64*	*-21.84*	*-12.79*
Radish	50.00-120.00	93.32	87.31	94.76	*6.01*	*6.88*	*-1.44*	*-1.52*
Cabbage	30.00-120.00	76.60	74.53	139.50	*2.07*	*2.78*	*-62.90*	*-45.09*
Tomato	50.00-160.00	93.36	154.56	76.45	*-61.20*	*-39.60*	*16.91*	*22.12*
Ladies Fingers	120.00-200.00	156.44	114.55	134.96	*41.89*	*36.57*	*21.48*	*15.92*
Brinjal	60.00-200.00	106.23	92.60	119.76	*13.63*	*14.72*	*-13.53*	*-11.30*
Capsicum	170.00-320.00	247.73	245.05	329.00	*2.68*	*1.09*	*-81.27*	*-24.70*
Pumpkin	70.00-160.00	107.27	107.81	137.95	*-0.54*	*-0.50*	*-30.68*	*-22.24*
Cucumber	100.00-200.00	160.07	155.77	87.80	*4.30*	*2.76*	*72.27*	*82.31*
Bittergourd	100.00-320.00	189.49	257.15	168.94	*-67.66*	*-26.31*	*20.55*	*12.16*
Snakegourd	70.00-200.00	132.54	109.19	119.56	*23.35*	*21.38*	*12.98*	*10.86*
Drumstick	-	-	476.67	436.53	-	-	-	-
Luffa	160.00-360.00	237.96	184.61	150.81	*53.35*	*28.90*	*87.15*	*57.79*
Long Beans	80.00-200.00	143.50	108.14	122.65	*35.36*	*32.70*	*20.85*	*17.00*
Ash Plantain	80.00-160.00	125.03	119.29	121.06	*5.74*	*4.81*	*3.97*	*3.28*
Green Chillies	180.00-400.00	342.89	306.26	333.27	*36.63*	*11.96*	*9.62*	*2.89*
Lime	100.00-400.00	235.47	492.89	161.26	*-257.42*	*-52.23*	*74.21*	*46.02*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HART

4. Fruits

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Compared to the previous month, prices of all the varieties of banana except Anamalu had decreased in the range of 1%-23%. Price of Anamalu had increased by 3%. The lowest price recorded for Kolikuttu during the month was Rs.100.00/kg while, the lowest price recorded for Ambul and Seeni was Rs.70.00/kg. The highest price recorded for Kolikuttu was Rs.160.00/kg and it was Rs.90.00/kg for both Ambul and Seeni. The price ranges recorded for Anamalu and Ambun were Rs.8.00-13.00/fruit and Rs.13.00-18.00/fruit respectively. Low demand for banana during the month had contributed to these price decreases and according to the data in previous years, banana prices for Kolikuttu, Ambul and Seeni could further decrease in the coming month due to increased supply and prices for Anamalu and Ambun could increase. Prices of all the sizes of pineapple had decreased in the range of 3%-6% and the prices ranged between Rs.100.00-280.00/fruit. Limited supply with low consumer demand had contributed to these price decreases. According to market information, prices of pineapple could increase in the coming month.

However, price of papaw had increased by 20% due to low supply with the dry weather condition and the price ranged between Rs.40.00-160.00/kg. According to the data in previous years, papaw prices could further increase in the coming month. Prices of all the mango varieties had increased in the range of 53%-70% due to low supply with the end of the harvesting season. The price range of Karthakolomban was Rs.30.00-90.00/fruit. According to market information, mango prices could decrease in the coming month due to low demand.

Further, prices of wood apple, slime apple and passion fruit had increased by 26%, 64% and 76% respectively due to low supply with the end of the harvesting season and according to market information, it is expected to have increased prices for woodapple, slime apple and passion fruit in the coming month too. However, prices of avocado, imported grapes and oranges had decreased by 13%, 14% and 18% respectively. Availability of low quality stocks with the off season had created decreased prices for avocado. Supply had increased for oranges with the harvesting season and it had contributed to decreased prices. Prices of imported grapes had decreased with the increased imports. According to the data in previous years, decreased prices could be expected for avocado and oranges in the coming month too.

Compared to the same period of 2016, wholesale prices of all the fruit varieties except Karthakolomban and papaw had increased and the highest price increase was noted for banana (Ambul) as 154%.

Retail prices of banana varieties, Seeni, Anamalu and Ambun had increased in the range of 1%-5% while, the prices of Ambul and Kolikuttu had decreased in the range of 1%-5%. The price ranges recorded for Kolikuttu, Ambul and Seeni during the month were Rs.180.00-260.00/kg, Rs.80.00-160.00/kg and Rs.100.00-160.00/kg respectively. The price ranges recorded for Anamalu and Ambun were Rs.15.00-30.00/fruit. Prices of all the sizes of pineapple had increased in the range of 2%-5% and the price ranged between Rs.120.00-350.00/fruit. Further, price of papaw had increased by 6% and price ranged between Rs.70.00-220.00/kg. Prices of all the mango varieties too had increased in the range of 23%-103% and the price range of Karthakolomban was Rs.35.00-120.00/fruit. In addition, prices of wood apple, slime apple and passion fruit had increased by 6%, 23% and 66% respectively. Meanwhile, prices of imported grapes, orange, and avocado had decreased by 3%, 10% and 29% respectively. Price range of imported grapes was Rs.600.00-900.00/kg. Compared to the same period of 2016, retail prices of most of the fruit varieties had increased and the highest price increase was noted for banana (Ambul) as 90%.

With reference to the producer prices, producers had received a decreased price for Ambul and Kolikuttu compared to the previous month. However, they had received an increased price for papaw while, the price received for pineapple had not changed. At the same time, compared to the same month last year, producer prices had increased for Ambul and Kolikuttu and prices had decreased for papaw (Table 4.3).

Exports/Imports of Fruits

According to the Department of Customs, Sri Lanka had exported 370mt of fresh fruits during the month and the value was Rs.61mn. Of the export quantity, 74% were papaw and 22% and 4% were fresh pineapple and fresh mangoes respectively. In addition, a small quantity of fresh avocados (0.005mt) also had been exported. In the month of January, 2017, the quantity exported was 442mt. Therefore, compared to last month, exported quantity had decreased by 16%.

With reference to imports, Sri Lanka had imported 4,381mt of fresh fruits during the month and the value was Rs.613mn. Of the imported quantity, 54% were apple and 20%, 18% and 8% were mandarin, grapes and oranges respectively. The main importing countries of apple were China, United States and France. Pakistan and China were the main importing countries of mandarin. In addition, main importing countries of oranges were Egypt and Turkey while India and South Africa were the main importing countries of grapes. In the month of January, 2017, the quantity imported was 4,377mt. Therefore, compared to last month, the imported quantity had increased slightly.

Table 4.1: Wholesale Prices of Fruits – February 2017

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	%	(Rs)	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Kg)	70.00-90.00	81.31	94.67	31.96	*-13.36*	*-14.11*	*49.35*	*154.41*
Kolikuttu (Kg)	100.00-160.00	147.88	191.09	124.98	*-43.21*	*-22.61*	*22.90*	*18.32*
Seeni (Kg)	70.00-90.00	81.83	85.49	37.22	*-3.66*	*-4.28*	*44.61*	*119.85*
Anamalu (Fruit)	8.00-13.00	11.10	10.72	7.91	*0.38*	*3.54*	*3.19*	*40.33*
Ambun (Fruit)	13.00-18.00	16.47	16.58	10.54	*-0.11*	*-0.66*	*5.93*	*56.26*
Pineapple								
Large (Fruit)	220.00-280.00	248.50	257.30	158.50	*-8.80*	*-3.42*	*90.00*	*56.78*
Medium (Fruit)	170.00-220.00	195.83	209.05	131.34	*-13.22*	*-6.32*	*64.49*	*49.10*
Small (Fruit)	100.00-170.00	143.25	150.34	105.00	*-7.09*	*-4.72*	*38.25*	*36.43*
Mango								
Betti (Fruit)	12.50-27.77	16.05	10.48	-	*5.57*	*53.15*	-	-
Karthakolomban (Fruit)	30.00-90.00	59.50	35.03	80.00	*24.47*	*69.85*	*-20.50*	*-25.63*
Vilad (Fruit)	-	-	14.54	-	-	-	-	-
Kohu (Fruit)	10.00-20.00	12.85	7.73	-	*5.12*	*66.24*	-	-
Papaw (Kg)	40.00-160.00	97.95	81.40	98.70	*16.55*	*20.33*	*-0.75*	*-0.76*
Passionfruit (Fruit)	10.00-25.00	16.39	9.33	13.55	*7.06*	*75.67*	*2.84*	*20.96*
Woodapple (Fruit)	30.00-70.00	39.14	30.99	24.55	*8.15*	*26.30*	*14.59*	*59.43*
Orange (Fruit)	25.00-40.00	31.28	37.95	17.49	*-6.67*	*-17.58*	*13.79*	*78.85*
Avocado (Fruit)	40.00-90.00	60.27	69.03	51.45	*-8.76*	*-12.69*	*8.82*	*17.14*
Slime Apple (Fruit)	35.00-80.00	51.43	31.35	23.98	*20.08*	*64.05*	*27.45*	*114.47*
Grapes Imported (Kg)	387.50-688.90	548.10	634.86	476.69	*-86.76*	*-13.67*	*71.41*	*14.98*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.2: Retail Prices of Fruits – February 2017

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Plantain								
Ambul (Rs/kg)	80.00-160.00	145.49	146.57	76.70	*-1.08*	*-0.74*	*68.79*	*89.69*
Kolikuttu (Rs/kg)	180.00-260.00	234.10	247.50	189.70	*-13.40*	*-5.41*	*44.40*	*23.41*
Seeni (Rs/kg)	100.00-160.00	125.35	120.39	77.80	*4.96*	*4.12*	*47.55*	*61.12*
Anamalu	15.00-30.00	23.95	23.66	17.15	*0.29*	*1.23*	*6.80*	*39.65*
Ambun	15.00-30.00	25.04	23.89	17.77	*1.15*	*4.81*	*7.27*	*40.91*
Pineapple								
Large	230.00-350.00	321.30	312.84	196.96	*8.46*	*2.70*	*124.34*	*63.13*
Medium	230.00-280.00	259.78	253.73	156.25	*6.05*	*2.38*	*103.53*	*66.26*
Small	120.00-220.00	193.13	183.78	109.42	*9.35*	*5.09*	*83.71*	*76.50*
Mango								
Betti	25.00-40.00	30.56	24.88	-	*5.68*	*22.83*	-	-
Karthakolomban	35.00-120.00	68.12	46.10	-	*22.02*	*47.77*	-	-
Vilad	40.00-60.00	51.50	30.12	-	*21.38*	*70.98*	-	-
Kohu	20.00-20.00	20.00	9.85	-	*10.15*	*103.05*	-	-
Papaw (Rs/kg)	70.00-220.00	139.16	131.60	151.10	*7.56*	*5.74*	*-11.94*	*-7.90*
Passionfruit	16.66-58.33	31.23	18.84	30.11	*12.39*	*65.76*	*1.12*	*3.72*
Woodapple	50.00-100.00	65.25	61.77	44.60	*3.48*	*5.63*	*20.65*	*46.30*
Orange	40.00-80.00	58.20	64.39	40.44	*-6.19*	*-9.61*	*17.76*	*43.92*
Avocado	80.00-180.00	112.41	158.01	100.82	*-45.60*	*-28.86*	*11.59*	*11.50*
Slime Apple	40.00-100.00	68.82	55.97	49.74	*12.85*	*22.96*	*19.08*	*38.36*
Grapes Imported (Rs/kg)	600.00-900.00	821.08	846.62	758.87	*-25.54*	*-3.02*	*62.21*	*8.20*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 4.3: Producer Prices of Selected Fruits - February 2017

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2017	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Ambul	45.00-90.00	57.81	60.72	30.40	-2.90	-4.78	27.41	90.17
Kolikuttu	126.00-170.00	142.71	143.70	92.52	-0.99	-0.69	50.19	54.25
Papaw	37.50-65.00	52.04	51.18	53.52	0.86	1.68	-1.48	-2.77
Pineapple	86.00-130.00	107.75	107.75	-	0.00	0.00	-	-

Source Marketing Food Policy Agribusiness Division, HARTI

Table 4.4: Quantity, Value and FOB Prices of Exported Fruits
December 2016 – February 2017

Type of Fruit	February			January			December		
	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	FOB (Rs/kg)
Fresh Pineapple	80.83	21.21	262.43	125.17	31.99	255.54	111.69	24.73	221.46
Papaw	274.34	28.71	104.67	301.45	31.13	103.28	284.65	27.43	96.35
Fresh Mango	15.16	11.12	733.95	15.86	9.40	592.62	7.27	3.29	452.11
Avocados, fresh	-	-	-	0.04	0.02	551.03	-	-	-

Source: Sri Lanka Customs (FOB=Free On Board)

Table 4.5: Quantity, Value and CIF Prices of Imported Fruits
December 2016 – February 2017

Type of Fruit	February			January			December		
	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)	Qty (mt)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF (Rs/kg)
Apple	2,355	291.14	123.61	1,936	259.74	134.16	2,196	294.98	134.34
Grapes	792	256.04	323.44	502	178.28	354.79	477	180.42	378.23
Oranges	368	29.40	79.86	509	45.74	89.85	550	78.78	143.35
Mandarin	866	36.36	42.00	1,430	64.80	45.32	2,195	99.41	45.28

Source: Sri Lanka Customs
(CIF=Cost Insurance and Freight)

5. Fish, Dried Fish, Eggs and Meat

Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Average wholesale prices of the selected fish types ranged between Rs.140/kg and Rs.1068/kg in February 2017. When compared with the previous month, prices of Salaya, Hurulla, Shrimp, Mora, and Thalapath have increased by 2%-6%. Prices of Balaya, Thora, Kelawalla, and Paraw have decreased by 2%-18%, and the highest price decrease was observed as 18% for Balaya. Prices of Thora, Kelawalla, and Paraw had decreased by less than 5%.

Weekly price variation within the month showed that the wholesale prices of most fish types have increased until the last few days. During the last few days of the month, a slight drop in prices was observed. When compared with the previous month, the highest price increase was observed in Salaya (6%), followed by Hurulla (5%) and Shrimp (4%). Prices of Thalapath and Mora have increased by 2%. These fish types have been supplied in low quantities in the market, because of limited coastal fishing operations in Kalmunai, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Kilinochchi, and

Mullaitivu due to the prevailing North-East monsoon. Similarly, fish supply in March may not boost significantly with the continuation of the North-East monsoon; therefore, increased fish prices could be anticipated in March.

When compared with the same period of last year, wholesale prices of Hurulla, Salaya, Thalapath, Thora, and Mora have increased by 2%-17%. In contrast, prices of Balaya, Kelawalla, Shrimp, and Paraw have decreased by 2%-25%.

Average retail prices of selected fish types varied between Rs.194/kg and Rs.1362/kg. In accordance with the wholesale prices, retail prices of all fish types, except Kelawalla and Thora, have increased this month compared to the previous month. Prices of Kelawalla and Thora have decreased by less than 2%. Of price increased fish types, the highest price increase was observed in Salaya (12%), followed by Paraw (8%) and Hurulla (6%). Prices of Shrimp and Thalapath have increased by 5%, whilst prices of Mora and Balaya have increased by 4% or less. Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of all fish types have increased in the range of 4%-24%, and the highest price increase of 24% was observed in Salaya.

Table 5.1: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Fish – February 2017

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wholesale Prices								
Salaya	110.00-150.00	139.50	131.91	121.80	*7.59*	*5.75*	*17.70*	*14.53*
Hurulla	280.00-400.00	343.45	326.00	292.51	*17.45*	*5.35*	*50.94*	*17.41*
Balaya	200.00-300.00	257.95	314.66	343.84	*-56.71*	*-18.02*	*-85.89*	*-24.98*
Kelawalla	400.00-550.00	468.13	475.95	515.02	*-7.82*	*-1.64*	*-46.89*	*-9.10*
Thora	900.00-1200.00	1067.50	1120.61	1024.33	*-53.11*	*-4.74*	*43.17*	*4.21*
Paraw	480.00-630.00	538.75	547.18	548.19	*-8.43*	*-1.54*	*-9.44*	*-1.72*
Mora	480.00-550.00	510.17	501.20	500.55	*8.97*	*1.79*	*9.62*	*1.92*
Shrimp (small)	700.00-850.00	759.88	733.20	788.59	*26.68*	*3.64*	*-28.71*	*-3.64*
Thalapath	570.00-75.00	653.03	641.80	597.64	*11.23*	*1.75*	*55.39*	*9.27*
Retail Prices								
Salaya	100.00-400.00	194.00	173.65	155.95	*20.35*	*11.72*	*38.05*	*24.40*
Hurulla	350.00-660.00	441.13	416.75	362.25	*24.38*	*5.85*	*78.88*	*21.78*
Balaya	260.00-750.00	471.44	461.21	410.97	*10.23*	*2.22*	*60.47*	*14.71*
Kelawalla	500.00-1100.00	783.96	797.56	705.73	*-13.60*	*-1.71*	*78.23*	*11.08*
Thora	1100.00-1900.00	1361.50	1373.08	1250.91	*-11.58*	*-0.84*	*110.59*	*8.84*
Paraw	550.00-1120.00	875.00	811.64	763.47	*63.36*	*7.81*	*111.53*	*14.61*
Mora	500.00-960.00	670.23	642.70	623.58	*27.53*	*4.28*	*46.65*	*7.48*
Shrimp (small)	750.00-1200.00	913.34	869.57	880.08	*43.77*	*5.03*	*33.26*	*3.78*
Thalapath	650.00-1200.00	921.55	879.00	809.24	*42.55*	*4.84*	*112.31*	*13.88*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Dried Fish

Prices and Supply/Demand Situation

Average wholesale prices of the selected dried fish types ranged between Rs.277/kg and Rs.1057/kg in February 2017. Local and imported dried fish supplies have been low during this month; consequently, wholesale prices of all dried fish types, except local Sprats and imported Kattawa, have increased by 1%-7% when compared to the previous month. The highest price increase was observed in local Salaya (7%), followed by imported Mora and Maduwa (4%). Imported and local Thora, Balaya, and Anguluwa, local Kattawa, Mora, and Maduwa, and imported Sprats showed price upturns that ranged between 1% and 3%. Price decreased dried fish types showed less significant price drops ranging between 1% and 2%.

Compared to the same period of last year, wholesale prices of most dried fish types had increased by 2%-23% in February 2017. The highest price increase was observed for local Anguluwa (24%), followed by local Sprats (13%) and imported Anguluwa (12%). Prices of imported and local Kattawa and Mora, local Salaya, and imported Thora have increased by 2%-6%. Of price decreased dried fish types, the highest price decrease was noted for imported Sprats (9%), followed by local Balaya (8%). Prices of local and imported Maduwa, local Thora, and imported Balaya have decreased by 5% or less.

The total quantity of Sprats imported in February 2017 was 1,418 MT, and it was a significant reduction (19%) from the total quantity of Sprats imported in the previous month.

The total value of imported Sprats was approximately Rs.545mn. Again, this was a reduction of Rs.120mn when compared with the expenditure on imported Sprats during the previous month. Of the total imports, the highest quantity was imported from Thailand (88%), followed by United Arab Emirates (8%). Approximately, 3% of the imports were from Oman and the rest (i.e., 1%) was from Vietnam. The CIF price ranged between Rs.295/kg and Rs.494/kg, and the average CIF price was Rs.384/kg.

Average retail prices of dried fish varied between Rs.505/kg and Rs.1553/kg in February 2017. In accordance with the wholesale prices, retail prices of most selected dried fish types have increased by 1%-10% when compared to the previous month. The highest price increase was observed in Thora (10%), followed by Maduwa (3%). Prices of local Sprats and Anguluwa have increased by 2%. The lowest price upturn of 1% was observed in Kattawa, imported Sprats, and Balaya. On the contrary, price drops were observed during this month in Salaya (8%) and Mora (1%). Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of all dried fish types except imported Sprats and Salaya have increased in the range of 1%-18%. The highest price upturn was noted in local Sprats and Thora.

Table 5.2: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Dried Fish – February 2017

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Dried fish – Wholesale								
Sprats	650.00-1000.00	838.50	857.11	739.83	*-18.61*	*-2.17*	*98.67*	*13.34*
Sprats (imported)	340.00-500.00	457.31	454.33	501.44	*2.98*	*0.66*	*-44.13*	*-8.80*
Kattawa	700.00-850.00	802.25	797.11	763.24	*5.14*	*0.64*	*39.01*	*5.11*
Kattawa (imported)	680.00-760.00	731.64	735.75	720.68	*-4.11*	*-0.56*	*10.96*	*1.52*
Thora	1000.00-1200.00	1056.98	1028.40	1086.00	*28.59*	*2.78*	*-29.02*	*-2.67*
Thora (imported)	950.00-1100.00	1035.38	1009.40	1011.86	*25.98*	*2.57*	*23.52*	*2.32*
Mora	800.00-860.00	827.17	806.72	794.60	*20.44*	*2.53*	*32.57*	*4.10*
Mora (imported)	700.00-820.00	760.63	731.35	734.10	*29.29*	*4.00*	*26.53*	*3.61*
Balaya	400.00-650.00	488.75	484.51	529.29	*4.24*	*0.87*	*-40.54*	*-7.66*
Balaya (imported)	300.00-520.00	470.25	467.33	495.83	*2.92*	*0.62*	*-25.58*	*-5.16*
Anguluwa	700.00-850.00	807.25	786.20	655.31	*21.05*	*2.68*	*151.94*	*23.19*
Anguluwa (imported)	640.00-800.00	724.19	716.77	646.36	*7.43*	*1.04*	*77.84*	*12.04*
Maduwa	450.00-700.00	539.75	528.00	553.11	*11.75*	*2.23*	*-13.36*	*-2.42*
Maduwa (imported)	400.00-480.00	436.16	419.36	458.64	*16.80*	*4.01*	*-22.48*	*-4.90*
Koduwa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Koduwa(imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salaya	240.00-350.00	277.39	259.49	261.80	*17.90*	*6.90*	*15.59*	*5.95*
Salaya (imported)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dried fish – Retail								
Sprats(imported)	400.00-800.00	603.24	597.79	627.91	*5.45*	*0.91*	*-24.67*	*-3.93*
Sprats	700.00-1500.00	1042.22	1021.83	881.00	*20.39*	*2.00*	*161.22*	*18.30*
Kattawa	800.00-1600.00	1174.59	1160.32	1085.41	*14.27*	*1.23*	*89.18*	*8.22*
Thora	1200.00-2000.00	1552.57	1410.96	1315.68	*141.61*	*10.04*	*236.89*	*18.01*
Mora	800.00-1500.00	1097.07	1112.01	958.81	*-14.94*	*-1.34*	*138.26*	*14.42*
Balaya	600.00-1000.00	857.63	852.66	847.11	*4.97*	*0.58*	*10.52*	*1.24*
Anguluwa	700.00-1300.00	1013.92	995.09	933.13	*18.83*	*1.89*	*80.79*	*8.66*
Maduwa	600.00-1000.00	793.75	770.67	719.41	*23.08*	*2.99*	*74.34*	*10.33*
Koduwa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salaya	400.00-800.00	505.36	548.22	542.94	*-42.86*	*-7.82*	*-37.58*	*-6.92*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Table 5.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Sprats – September 2016 to February 2017

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
February	1418	545.27	384.42	603.24	*218.82*
January	1752	664.86	379.49	597.79	*218.30*
December	2131	798.09	374.57	587.29	*212.72*
November	1575	576.71	366.13	559.02	*192.89*
October	1835	686.09	373.91	535.18	*161.27*
September	1938	737.83	380.65	539.16	*158.51*

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HART

Eggs

Average wholesale price of a brown egg was reported as Rs.13.50, and that of a white egg was reported as Rs.13.00 in February 2017. Compared to the previous month, wholesale prices of both brown and white eggs have slightly increased by 5%. Interestingly, during the whole month of February, prices of eggs have been stable. Compared to the same period of last year, egg prices have dropped significantly. Price of a brown egg has reduced by 16%, and the price of a white egg has reduced by 14%.

In accordance with the wholesale prices, retail prices of a brown egg and a white egg have decreased by 4% and 3%, respectively. Average retail price of a brown egg was reported as Rs.15.12, and that of a white egg was Rs.14.10. Compared with the same period of last year, prices of a brown and a white egg had decreased by 13% and 14% respectively.

Table 5.4: Wholesale and Retail Prices of Eggs – February 2017

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	%	Rs	%
Wholesale Price								
Eggs – Brown (each)	13.50-13.50	13.50	12.90	16.04	*0.60*	*4.65*	*-2.54*	*-15.84*
White (each)	13.00-13.00	13.00	12.40	15.04	*0.60*	*4.84*	*-2.04*	*-13.56*
Retail Price								
Eggs- Brown (each)	14.00-16.00	15.12	14.59	17.31	*0.53*	*3.63*	*-2.19*	*-12.65*
White (each)	13.00-15.50	14.10	13.63	16.35	*0.47*	*3.45*	*-2.25*	*-13.76*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Meat

Retail price of only Broiler chicken has decreased in February 2017 when compared with the previous month. Price of Broiler chicken has decreased by 1%, and the average price was Rs.461/kg. On the other hand, prices of curry chicken and mutton have increased by 5% and 1%, respectively. Average prices of curry chicken and mutton were Rs.473/kg and Rs.1685/kg. Interestingly, prices of beef and pork have not changed significantly during this month.

Compared to the same period of last year, retail prices of beef and mutton have increased by 14% and 11%, respectively. In addition, price of curry chicken has increased by 1%. However, prices of pork and broiler chicken have decreased by 8% and 3%, respectively.

Table 5.5: Retail Prices of Meat – February 2017

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Meat								
Beef (without bones)	850.00-900.00	859.20	855.01	751.42	*4.19*	*0.49*	*107.78*	*14.34*
Chicken (Broiler)	380.00-520.00	461.04	464.16	474.85	*-3.12*	*-0.67*	*-13.81*	*-2.91*
Chicken (curry)	380.00-550.00	473.02	452.40	467.68	*20.62*	*4.56*	*5.34*	*1.14*
Mutton	1600.00-1800.00	1684.98	1672.06	1520.66	*12.92*	*0.77*	*164.32*	*10.81*
Pork	550.00-680.00	572.29	573.67	624.40	*-1.38*	*-0.24*	*-52.11*	*-8.35*

Source: Marketing, Food Policy and Agri-business Division/HARTI

6. Wheat grain, Wheat flour and Sugar

Wheat grain, Wheat flour

Total imports of wheat grains in the month of February have decreased by 44% compared to the previous month and the import quantity was 91316mt worth of Rs.3312mn. Compared to the averages of last two months (January & December), total imported quantity has decreased to 70237mt in February. This sudden decline was a result of considerably high amount of imports that took place in last two months of the period.

Out of total imports this month, the highest proportion that is 52% was imported from Canada. The rest 38%, 7% and 3% were imported from Russia, United States and Denmark respectively.

Very few (81mt) was imported from India. The CIF price ranged between Rs.31.97-54.16/kg and the average CIF price for wheat grain was reported as Rs.36.27/kg. The highest CIF price was reported for the Indian wheat grains whilst, the lowest was recorded for the Russian stocks. The CIF price of Rs.39.09/kg was applied for the highest imported stocks imported from Canada. The CIF price of Canada stock has increased by Rs.1.00/kg compared to the previous month.

In the meantime, the total imports of wheat flour have increased by 45% compared to the previous month. Total imported quantity for this month was reported as 258mt (worth of 17.34mn). Monthly average CIF price for wheat flour was Rs.67.24/kg and it has decreased by Rs.2.00/kg compared to last month. Retail price of wheat flour ranged between Rs.85.00-96.00/kg and the average price was Rs.89.12/kg. Even though the average price of wheat flour has decreased compared to last month it is a negligible change. Compared to the same period of the last year retail prices increased by 2%.

Table 6.1: Open Market Retail Prices of Wheat Flour and Sugar – February 2017

Items	Price Range	Average			Change Compared to			
	Feb 2017	Feb 2017	Jan 2017	Feb 2016	Jan 2017		Feb 2016	
	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	Rs/kg	%	Rs/kg	%
Wheat Flour	85.00-96.00	89.12	89.20	87.16	*-0.08*	*-0.08*	*1.96*	*2.25*
Sugar	93.00-110.00	101.66	102.20	*97.05*	*-0.54*	*-0.53*	*4.61*	*4.75*

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Table 6.2: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Wheat Flour & Grain – September 2016 to February 2017

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
Wheat Flour					
February	258	17.34	67.24	89.12	*21.88*
January	178	12.37	69.62	89.20	*19.57*
December	530	34.16	64.47	89.10	*24.63*
November	303	18.78	62.09	88.76	*26.68*
October	415	28.18	67.89	88.54	*20.65*
September	343	23.20	67.58	88.83	*21.25*
Wheat Grain					
February	91,316	3312.29	36.27	89.12	*52.85*
January	164,269	6100.57	37.14	89.20	*52.06*
December	158,836	5798.21	36.50	89.10	*52.60*
November	53,288	1943.65	36.47	88.76	*52.29*
October	92,011	3404.27	37.00	88.54	*51.54*
September	283,151	9800.44	34.61	88.83	*54.22*

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HARTI

Sugar

A drastic reduction of 64% has been noticed on sugar imports this month compared to last month. Total imported quantity for the month of February was 14604mt (Rs.1318mn). World sugar prices have also increased considerably at the beginning of February and a slight reduction was observed at latter stages of the month. In line with the world price, CIF price for sugar has also increased by Rs.1.00/kg and the CIF price was reported as Rs.90.25/kg.

Out of the total imports majority (35%) was imported from France. The second highest quantity (25%) was imported from Thailand. The rest was imported from Guatemala (9%), both India and Ukraine (8%), and Brazil (7%). In addition, few quantities were also imported from Egypt, Poland, Korea, Spain and United Arab Emirates. The CIF prices ranged between Rs.82.50-

377.46/kg. The highest CIF price was applied to the imports of United Arab Emirates, while the lowest for the Guatemala stocks. The CIF price of Rs.93.14/kg was reported for the highest quantity of imports to the country which was from France.

The retail price of sugar ranged between Rs.93.00-110.00/kg and the average price was Rs.101.66/kg. Compared to last month retail price of sugar has decreased slightly. Thus, it was not a significant change. Sugar retail price has increased by Rs.5.00/kg compared to the last quarter average prices in 2016. This is due to the imposition of Special Commodity Levy in the month of November and at the same time increment of world sugar prices.

Table 6.3: Quantity, Value and CIF prices of Sugar- September 2016 to February 2017

Month	Quantity (mt.)	Value (Rs.mn)	CIF price (Rs/kg)	Retail Price (Rs/kg)	Gross Margin (Rs/kg)
February	14604	1318.02	90.25	101.66	*11.41*
January	40378	3588.22	88.87	102.20	*13.33*
December	29466	2626.34	89.13	97.68	*8.55*
November	38488	3468.25	90.11	97.57	*7.46*
October	81791	7289.01	89.12	96.90	*7.78*
September	62330	5240.26	84.07	95.23	*11.15*

Source: Department of Customs; Marketing Food Policy and Agribusiness Division/HART

Table 7: Import of Selected Food Items – February 2017

Items	Quantity (mt)		% Change Compared to last month	Value (Rs. mn)		% Change Compared to last month	CIF (Rs/kg)		% Change Compared to last month
	Feb 2017	Jan 2017		Feb 2017	Jan 2017		Feb 2017	Jan 2017	
Rice	92644	26900	244	5445.6	1714.1	218	58.78	63.72	-8
Red Onion	1819	2701	-33	132.0	162.4	-19	72.56	60.12	21
Big Onion	20018	20268	-1	566.0	616.4	-8	28.27	30.41	-7
Potato	11700	16440	-29	321.7	468.6	-31	27.50	28.50	-4
Dried Chillies	3921	4817	-19	637.0	934.3	-32	162.48	193.95	-16
Masoor Dhal	14562	24582	-41	1639.8	2815.5	-42	112.61	114.53	-2
Green Gram	1509	411	267	216.6	59.1	266	143.53	143.93	0
Cowpea	352	282	25	43.6	33.1	32	123.74	117.53	5
Garlic	1553	1801	-14	467.7	581.1	-20	301.27	322.72	-7
Wheat flour	258	178	45	17.3	12.4	40	67.24	69.63	-3
Wheat grain	91316	164269	-44	3312.3	6100.6	-46	36.27	37.14	-2
White crystalline cane sugar	14604	23837	-39	1318.0	2120.4	-38	90.25	88.95	1
Maize (Seed)	20	1	3309	10.2	1.2	770	500.65	1960.74	-74
Maize (Other)	21388	24314	-12	782.2	874.4	-11	36.57	35.96	2
Sprats, dried unsalted	1418	1754	-19	545.3	665.0	-18	384.42	379.09	1

Source: Automated data Processing Division, Department of Customs

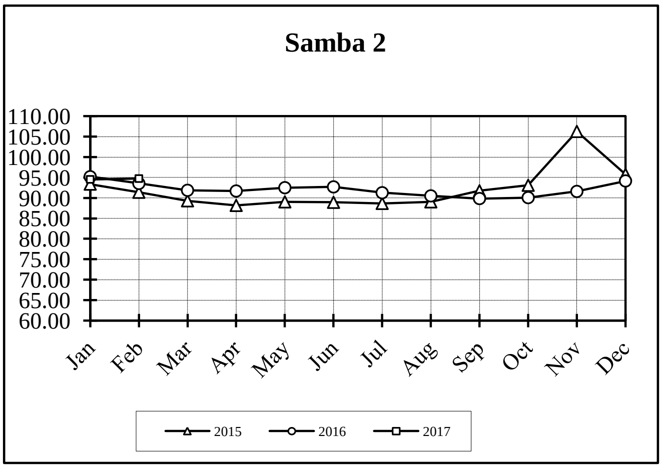
Table 8: Monthly Rainfall (mm) – February 2017

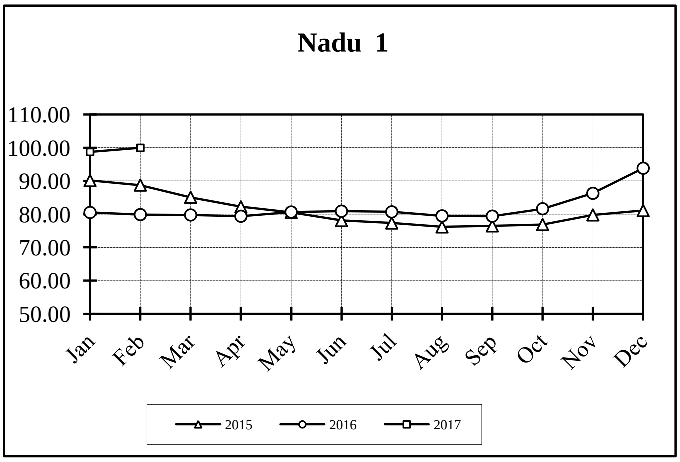
Rainfall Station	Total Rainfall (mm)	30 Year Avg. Rainfall (mm)	Total Rainy Days	30 Year Average Rainy Days
Anuradhapura	39.5	55.4	2	4
Badulla	122.3	103.1	8	7
Bandarawela	71.5	70.2	7	6
Batticaloa	22.1	128.4	6	7
Colombo	92.3	72.7	6	5
Galle	37.2	70.5	5	6
Hambantota	66.7	47.6	10	4
Jaffna	25.6	39.0	1	2
Katugastota	62.0	74.2	6	5
Katunayaka	2.6	79.8	2	4
Kurunegala	55.3	98.8	6	4
Mahailuppallama	0.0	56.8	0	4
Mannar	3.0	61.8	1	3
Nuwara Eliya	81.9	77.7	7	7
Pottuvil	194.1	163.6	9	-
Puttalam	20.3	43.1	3	4
Ratmalana	48.1	77.3	4	5
Ratnapura	33.1	137.0	7	9
Trincomalee	18.6	105.4	4	5
Vavuniya	23.5	62.5	3	4
Polonnaruwa	60.1	-	7	-
Moneragala	91.1	-	7	-
Mattala	26.0	-	7	-

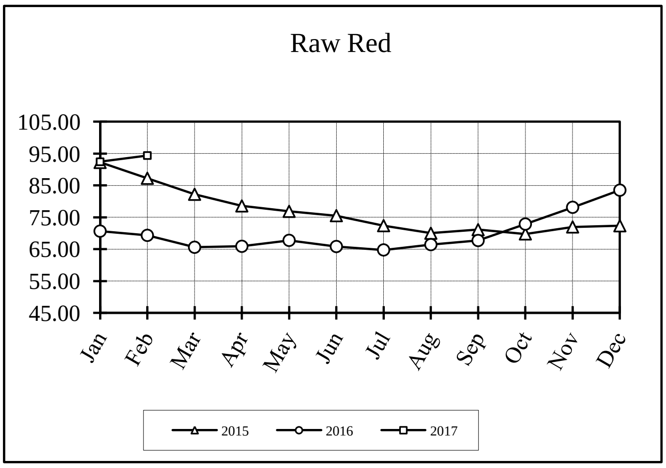
Source: Department of Meteorology

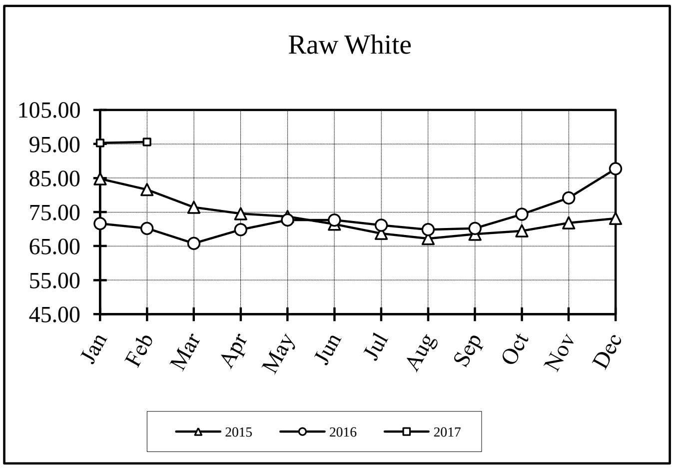
Appendix 01:Retail Price of Rice in Colombo & Suburbs (Rs/kg)

Month	Samba 2			Nadu 1			Raw Red			Raw White		
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
Jan	93.38	95.20	94.54	90.13	80.51	98.73	92.21	70.64	92.41	84.76	71.61	95.27
Feb	91.39	93.55	94.74	88.75	79.87	99.95	87.23	69.32	94.37	81.61	70.19	95.56
Mar	89.30	91.87		85.09	79.76		82.21	65.58		76.40	65.80	
Apr	88.17	91.70		82.22	79.38		78.56	65.88		74.51	69.83	
May	89.04	92.51		80.50	80.65		76.85	67.75		73.70	72.67	
Jun	88.93	92.71		78.08	80.90		75.50	65.82		71.45	72.63	
Jul	88.66	91.28		77.33	80.69		72.36	64.74		68.75	71.13	
Aug	89.04	90.51		76.16	79.49		69.99	66.41		67.22	69.85	
Sep	91.75	89.85		76.46	79.40		71.10	67.70		68.49	70.19	
Oct	93.10	90.08		76.89	81.62		69.77	72.86		69.49	74.34	
Nov	106.27	91.60		79.77	86.28		71.96	78.12		71.84	79.14	
Dec	95.76	94.16		81.10	93.83		72.33	83.50		73.15	87.71	



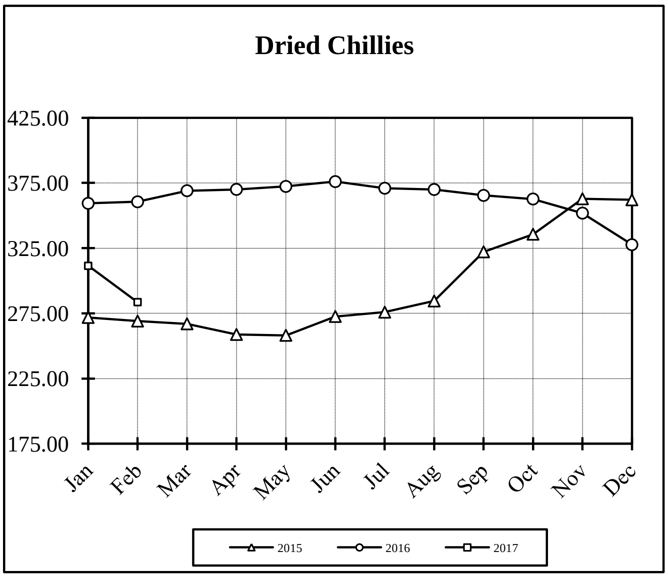


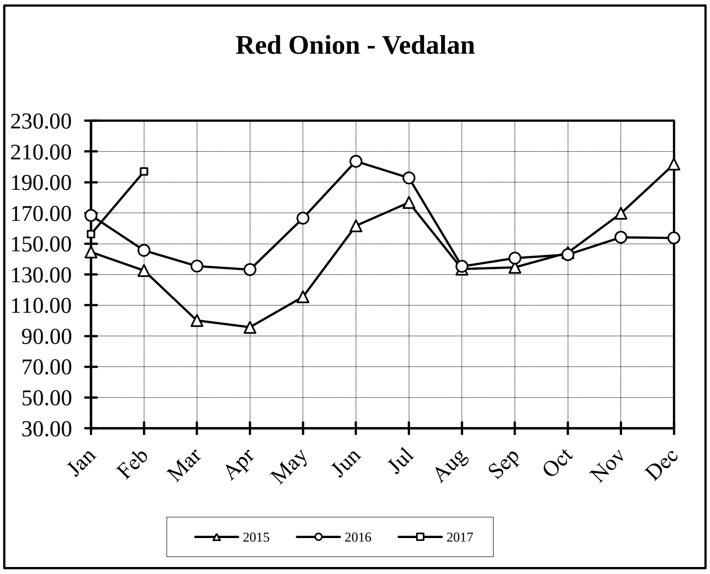


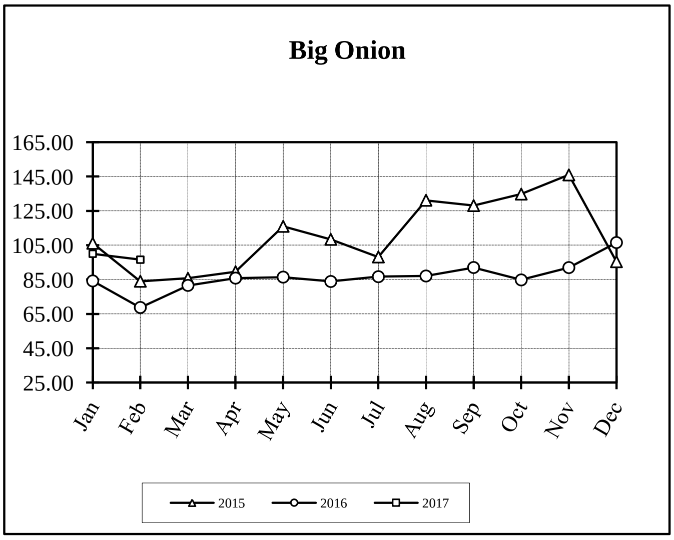


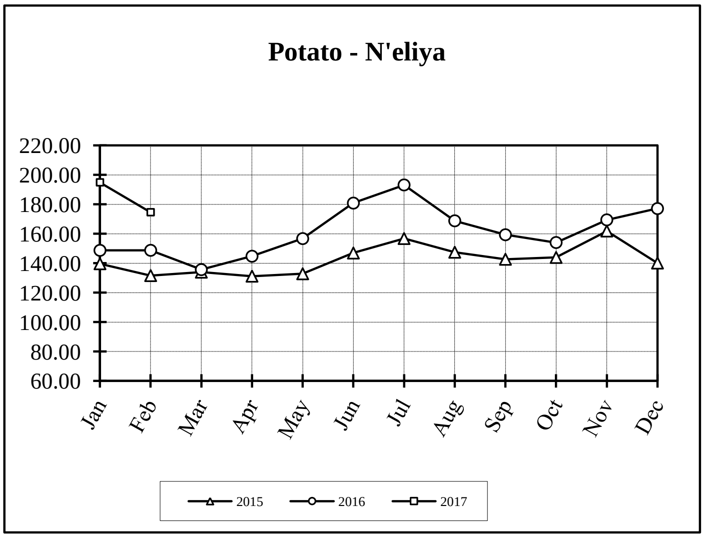
Appendix 02: Retail Pricees of Chillies, Onions & Potato in Colombo & Suburbs (Rs/kg)

Month	Dried Chillies			Red Onion			Big Onion			Potato - N'Eliya		
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
Jan	271.85	359.36	311.44	144.64	168.42	156.25	106.11	84.20	100.02	139.63	148.73	194.94
Feb	269.09	360.56	283.58	132.59	145.71	197.00	83.99	68.73	96.57	131.58	148.75	174.64
Mar	266.95	369.06		100.10	135.49		85.73	81.58		133.91	135.62	
Apr	258.81	370.07		95.65	133.19		89.56	85.83		131.19	144.75	
May	258.15	372.34		115.55	166.64		115.99	86.42		132.82	156.73	
Jun	272.61	376.04		161.67	203.59		108.39	83.87		146.91	180.84	
Jul	275.90	370.97		176.85	192.81		98.14	86.66		156.77	193.18	
Aug	284.48	369.99		133.51	135.32		131.16	87.07		147.47	168.81	
Sep	322.19	365.44		134.69	140.64		128.09	92.01		142.68	159.34	
Oct	335.70	362.69		144.23	142.94		134.76	84.79		143.91	154.06	
Nov	362.89	351.86		169.84	154.23		145.93	91.96		161.86	169.46	
Dec	362.08	327.65		201.81	153.77		95.39	106.54		140.10	177.13	









Appendix 03: Farmgate\Producer Prices of Food Commodities in Selected Producing Areas (Rs/Kg)

February 2017

Commodity	1St Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week	Commodity	1St Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week	Commodity	1St Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week
Paddy					**Potato**					**Leeks**				
Short grain					N'Eliya	117.00	122.00	127.00	131.00	Welimada				
A'pura	49.00	48.60	48.20	49.20	Badulla	126.00	95.00	124.00	125.00	N'Eliya	37.00	31.40	29.00	26.40
P'naruwa	51.60	51.60	51.40	49.50	Welimada	125.00	99.00	127.00	121.00					
Kalawewa		52.15	52.15	54.70	**Pulses**					**Beetroot**				
Kurunegala					**Green Gram**					Hanguranketha				
Dehiattakandiya	51.67	51.67		48.33	Galgamuwa					N'Eliya	32.00	31.40	33.00	33.00
Ampara	51.50	51.50	51.60	50.80	Kalawewa					Dambulla	36.80	36.20	27.80	33.80
Long grain (White)					Embilipitiya	153.40	153.40	160.00	160.00	Kurunegala				
A'pura	51.60	50.80	50.80	50.80	Kurunegala					Welimada	40.00	33.00	39.00	35.00
P'naruwa	50.60	50.60	50.50	50.55	A'pura					**Knokhol**				
Kalawewa		55.00	54.35	56.25	**Cowpea**					Hanguranketha				
Kurunegala					A'pura		167.50	175.00	180.00	N'Eliya	52.00	52.00	52.00	47.00
Dehiattakandiya	52.16	52.16		46.33	Galgamuwa					Welimada	64.00	59.00	69.00	51.00
Embilipitiya	50.40	51.60	52.40	56.60	Nikaweratiya		156.67	156.67	156.67	**Radish**				
Ampara	49.70	49.70	49.80	49.30	Kalawewa					Hanguranketha				
Matara	49.67	50.00	52.33	55.67	Embilipitiya	180.00	180.00	180.00	180.00	N'Eliya	13.20	8.20	11.80	9.80
Hambantota					Kurunegala					Welimada	9.00	9.00	9.00	5.00
Long grain (Red)					**Maize**					**Cabbage**				
Matara	47.67	47.67	49.00	55.33	A'Pura					Hanguranketha				
Hambantota	49.50	49.50	51.00	57.00	Kalawewa					N'Eliya	8.40	7.80	12.40	9.00
Ampara	47.80	47.80	47.80	47.30	**Gingelly**					Welimada	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Embilipitiya	48.60	48.60	50.40	55.60	A'Pura	185.00	175.00			Hambantota				
Other Food Crops					Kalawewa		160.00	172.50	165.00	Badulla	9.60	9.00	9.00	11.60
Dried Chillies					**Black Gram**					**Tomato**				
A'Pura					Kalawewa	155.00	192.50	142.50	153.33	Hanguranketha				
Galgamuwa					A'Pura	193.33	190.00	100.00	154.16	Welimada	76.00	109.00	57.00	40.00
Kalawewa					**Vegetables (Up Country)**					Hambantota				
Red Onion					**Beans**					Dambulla	100.00	97.00	74.20	31.40
Puttalam	114.00	104.00	104.00		Dambulla	62.20	66.20	69.80	25.40	**Low Country**				
					Welimada	53.00	61.00	51.00	23.00	**Ladies Fingers**				
Big Onion					Badulla					A'pura	25.00	25.00	53.33	53.33
Dambulla					**Carrot**					Dambulla	21.00	39.60	53.80	50.60
Kalawewa					Hanguranketha					Hambantota	32.50	25.00	50.00	35.00
A'Pura					N'Eliya	52.20	42.00	62.00	37.00	Embilipitiya	30.40	32.40	44.00	44.00
Kurunegala					Welimada	59.00	49.00	49.00	33.00	Matara	38.33	35.00	38.33	31.67

Appendix 03: contd…..

Commodity	1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week
Brinjals				
A'pura	25.00	15.00	35.00	45.00
Dambulla	10.50	19.20	21.00	40.60
Hambantota	22.50	12.50	27.50	25.00
Embilipitiya	17.00	29.40	35.40	32.40
Matara	13.33	16.67	20.67	20.67
Welimada	15.00	15.00	19.00	28.00
Capsicum				
Welimada	130.00	131.00	141.00	153.00
Bitter Gourd				
A'pura	130.00	126.67	130.00	130.00
Dambulla	158.00	139.00	138.00	121.00
Hambantota	100.00	110.00	150.00	90.00
Embilipitiya	117.00	136.00	136.00	136.00
Matara	100.00	100.00	100.00	93.33
Snake Gourd				
Dambulla	32.60	33.20	33.60	32.40
Hambantota	25.00	25.00	27.50	25.00
Embilipitiya	26.40	28.40	33.40	32.40
Matara				
A'pura	25.00	25.00	35.00	35.00
Luffa				
Dambulla	66.60	64.60	68.20	78.80
Hambantota	95.00	85.00	70.00	85.00
Embilipitiya	103.00	103.00	113.40	106.60
Matara	71.67	71.67	71.67	71.67
A'pura	55.00	68.33	73.33	100.00

Commodity	1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week
Pumpkin				
Dambulla	33.80	47.20	37.40	38.00
Hambantota	30.00	52.50	50.00	50.00
Embilipitiya	46.00	47.00	42.40	43.40
Matara				
A'pura	28.33	30.00	40.00	45.00
Moneragala	65.00	38.75	40.00	49.00
Cucumber				
A'pura	55.00	70.00	116.67	80.00
Dambulla	56.80	84.60	83.80	47.00
Hambantota	27.50	45.00	85.00	70.00
Matara				
Long beans				
Dambulla	19.60	29.20	29.20	22.20
Hambantota	35.00	35.00	32.50	35.00
Embilipitiya	35.40	32.40	18.60	20.60
Matara	41.67	41.67	41.67	41.67
A'Pura	21.67	23.33	35.00	35.00
Ash Plantain				
Hambantota	37.50	45.00	0.00	42.50
Embilipitiya	48.60	42.40	47.00	47.00
Matara				
Green Chillies				
Dambulla	136.00	136.00	178.00	180.00
Hambantota	115.00	170.00	150.00	190.00
Embilipitiya	106.40	128.00	147.40	145.00
Puttalam	128.00	110.00	208.00	152.00
A'Pura	146.67	160.00	180.00	213.33

Commodity	1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week
Lime				
Hambantota	190.00	190.00	140.00	145.00
Embilipitiya	328.00	217.00	202.00	155.00
Moneragala	206.67	138.75	183.75	103.00
Fruits (Rs/Kg)				
Banana				
Ambul				
Moneragala	53.75	46.25	46.25	50.00
Embilipitiya	49.00	49.00	59.00	73.00
Hambantota	70.00	62.50	45.00	90.00
Kolikuttu				
Moneragala	143.75	150.00	148.75	151.00
Embilipitiya	126.00	126.00	139.00	138.00
Hambantota	135.00	150.00	135.00	170.00
Papaw				
Moneragala				
Embilipitiya	58.00	53.00	51.40	51.40
Hambantota	37.50	45.00	65.00	55.00
Pineapple				
Divulapitiya	91.00	86.00	124.00	130.00